



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

November 18, 2002

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OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR  
SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

Honorable Christine Todd Whitman  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Subject: Data Quality and Reproducibility: An EPA Science Advisory Board  
Notification of a Consultation

Dear Governor Whitman:

The Executive Committee of the EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) met on October 1, 2002 to conduct a consultation with staff from the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Information and the Office of Research and Development on "data quality and reproducibility" as part of the Agency response to Guidelines issued by the Office of Management and Budget. This Consultation was designed to be a fairly narrow inquiry concerning the higher standard of quality, i.e., "reproducibility", for information especially deemed by the Agency as "influential." In the consultation, EPA was primarily interested in Executive Committee Members' experience and standards used in the scientific community for "reproducibility." Information from the consultation will be used as guidance for the choices EPA will make in complying with OMB requirements.

The SAB has developed the Consultation as a mechanism to advise the Agency on technical issues that should be considered in the development of regulations, guidelines, or technical guidance before the Agency has taken a position. A Consultation is conducted under the normal requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, which include advance notice of the public meeting in the Federal Register.

As is our customary practice, there will be no formal report from the SAB as a result of this Consultation, nor do we expect any formal response from the Agency. The discussions at the meeting along with the meeting minutes constitute the record of this Consultation.

Sincerely,

*/Signed/*

Dr. William Glaze, Chair  
EPA Science Advisory Board

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Science Advisory Board  
Executive Committee**

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